



SMOG CHECK ADVISORY

Official Publication of the California Department of Consumer Affairs/Bureau of Automotive Repair

MARCH 1998

Revised Timetable for BAR-97 Program Roll-Out

Representatives of the auto repair industry, equipment manufacturers, and BAR have agreed to revise the timetable for the roll-out of the new BAR-97 program, including the use of new equipment and test procedures in the Enhanced Areas of the state, which was originally scheduled for full-implementation on March 1.

"Demand for dynamometers has been much greater than anticipated," said BAR Chief Marty Keller. "This caused an unavoidable delay in the delivery of dynamometers to some stations, and is a major factor in why we must revise our schedule."

The program will now roll-out according to the following revised plan:

MARCH 1, 1998

Only test results from BAR-97 test analyzer systems (TAS) units will be accepted from stations in the Enhanced Areas. On this date, stations and

technicians in Enhanced Areas will no longer be able to use a BAR-90 TAS unit to perform a Smog Check.

Acceleration Simulation Mode (ASM) tests for those stations with a certified BAR-97 system are encouraged, but only passing test results will be accepted; otherwise two-speed idle test results will be accepted through April 30, 1998. Stations must use either BAR-97 "interim" or fully-certified software.

APRIL 1, 1998

Fully certified BAR-97 units — including dynamometers and final software — must be completely installed and operational in Enhanced Area stations. The two-speed idle test (or *passing* ASM results) will still be accepted through April 30, 1998.

Enhanced Area stations without *certified, installed* BAR-97 equipment will be locked out, and will be unable to send Smog Check test results to the Vehicle

Identification Database (VID). Stations are required to send at least one ASM test to the VID by April 1 as evidence of installation.

MAY 1, 1998

Full program implementation begins. Only ASM tests on the dynamometer for vehicles registered in the Enhanced Areas will be accepted. No idle test results will be accepted except for designated vehicle groups, such as full-time four-wheel drive, all-wheel-drive, and traction control vehicles.

Keller explained that the revised timetable will give all stations and their technicians at least 30 days to become familiar with the new BAR-97 equipment and the ASM test procedures before they begin performing loaded-mode Smog Checks, as originally intended.

NOTE: As of March 3, there were 3,011 Enhanced Area stations which had installed the BAR-97 analyzer. •••

IDENTIFYING SPECIALTY VEHICLES IS CRITICAL

Identifying full time 4-wheel drive (FT4WD), all-wheel drive (AWD), and traction control vehicles can be a challenge, and testing them on a dynamometer requires some important knowledge and special handling.

"Most of these vehicles are readily identifiable by their exterior badging, but a few are more subtle," said Edward VanMil of BAR's Engineering and Technical Research Branch. "If technicians are not sure if the vehicle is equipped with full-time 4-wheel drive or all wheel drive, there's a simple way to find out."

A check of the non-driving axle (rear axle on a front-wheel drive or front axle on a rear-wheel drive) is the first step. The non-driving axle should be a simple tube or bar on a front-wheel drive, or a simple suspension system on a rear-wheel drive. Sometimes the determination can be made by entering the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)

into a BAR-97 Emissions Inspection System (EIS), which will check the lookup table.

In addition, if there is any evidence of a driveshaft or a differential, the vehicle may be a FT4WD or AWD vehicle. Many FT4WD or AWD vehicles can be disengaged or disabled using a switch that is mounted on the dash or shift console.

"If technicians inadvertently attempt to test a vehicle equipped with FT4WD or AWD on a two-wheel dynamometer, they will immediately notice the vehicle straining against the wheel chocks and attempting to drive forward out of the dynamometer rollers," VanMil explained. "At that point, technicians should stop the vehicle immediately and look for the dashboard or shift console switch to disengage or disable the FT4WD or AWD feature."

Traction control vehicles should be handled in a similar manner. Traction

control is a feature designed to reduce or prevent loss of control by reducing the amount of power available to the vehicle's drive wheels. The on-board computer uses sensors (usually the same sensors used for the Anti-Lock Braking System) to monitor the speed of the vehicle wheels. If any of the drive wheels begins to rotate at a rate that is faster than the other wheels, the on-board computer assumes the wheel is spinning and will retard the engine timing and/or reduce the fuel injector cycle time to reduce the power output and reduce the spinning.

"These vehicles are hard to spot since the Traction Control feature is rarely detailed by exterior badging, and there are no obvious mechanical components to help identify a vehicle equipped with Traction Control," VanMil said.

However, if technicians attempt to test these vehicles on a dynamometer, they

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Space Remaining For CSSARA Free Training For Qualified Technicians

Smog technicians who qualify can still receive 60-hours of training at no cost to them in a BAR-approved program through the California Service Station and Automotive Repair Association's Technician Training Program, Inc.

As reported in the January edition of the *Smog Check Advisory*, instructors from Automotive Diagnostics/SPX, Snap-On, and Sequoia Institute will provide instruction in Advanced Engine Performance (alternate L-1 course), Advanced Emission Diagnostics (BAR 20-hour update training), and Dynamometer Training (BAR-97 Transition Course) at the following locations:

Sacramento	San Jose	Riverside
Fremont	Fresno	San Diego
Anaheim	Carlsbad	Colton
Sun Valley	Fullerton	Modesto

"The purpose of this training program is to enhance the diagnostic and repair capabilities of California's smog technicians," said CSSARA's Director of Training Sunny Campbell. "We've already trained over 400 technicians since the program began."

The training, funded through the State's Employment Training Panel, will meet the new Smog Technician requirements for certification and is available for technicians who meet the following requirements:

- Basic smog technician license;
- Completion of A-6 and A-8 training;
- Minimum wage of \$14.57 (or \$13.84 in some counties) including benefits;
- Full-time employment 90 days prior to training;
- Full-time employment 90 days after training; and
- Mandatory 100 percent attendance at all training sessions;
- Must be a station with 50 or less employees; and
- Owners are not eligible.

Interested and qualified smog technicians may call the CSSARA office at (415) 892-6377 for an application.

"This free training represents a \$1,200 value to those technicians who qualify," said CSSARA's Director of Training, Sunny Campbell. "We urge technicians to take advantage of this very special offer." •••

Scan Tool Diagnostics Manual Available

A vehicle specific Scan Tool training manual with all the information technicians need to do actual vehicle diagnosis and repair is now available.

The 416-page manual is divided into specific topics, including:

- Chrysler;
- Ford;
- General Motors; and
- Scan Tool Specifics.

It also includes self-study exercises and worksheets for each section.

Information in the manual is specifically designed to help solve No-Code Faults, and to work with either On-Board Diagnostics (OBD) I and OBD II systems, according to Ellen Smith, a member of the Technician Advisory Committee, who uses the manual in Scan Tool Diagnostics training classes.

For more information, contact Jendham, Inc., at (619) 486-8525.

SPECIALTY VEHICLES

(Continued from page 1)

will find that the drive wheels will begin to rotate on the dynamometer rolls for a short time before the on-board computer interprets it as wheel spin because the non-drive wheels are stationary.

The result will be a noticeable and definite loss of power, and on many systems, the vehicle may require full throttle to maintain any speed at all.

"If technicians continue driving the vehicle on the dynamometer, they will likely set the Malfunction Indicator Lamp and potentially a fault code, which can usually be cleared by cycling the ignition key off and back on," he added.

Like FT4WD and AWD, most Traction Control vehicles have a switch that technicians should use to disable or disengage the Traction Control feature.

However, if technicians are unable to disengage the FT4WD, AWD or Traction Control vehicles, they should stop dynamometer testing and perform a two-speed idle test. •••

Issues & Answers

The Issues & Answers column is for readers to ask questions about topics that are of general interest to the auto repair industry and the Smog Check program. Answers to your questions will be researched and published here. You are encouraged to submit your questions to:

SMOG CHECK ADVISORY
P.O. Box 188978
Sacramento, CA 95818

All questions must be accompanied by a name, address and telephone number, and will be verified before publication. Questions will be answered and published on a space available basis. — THE EDITOR

Q. In the January issue of the *Smog Check Advisory*, it states that vehicles four years and newer are exempt from Smog Checks. I remember the instructor

at the 8-hour transition course mentioning that the reason behind this was that those newer vehicles usually passed their emission test anyway. My question is, would that rule also apply to high mileage fleet vehicles? If not, how are you going to know before their first smog, four years later, that it is a high mileage fleet vehicle or not? - *David J. Winkowski, Spring Valley, CA*

A. Yes, it does apply to high mileage fleet vehicles. Like all other vehicles, however, fleet vehicles are still subject to remote sensing, which will detect those that may become high emitters during the first four years. In addition, these vehicles are subject to change of ownership, initial registration and the 2 percent random audit Smog Checks. •••

BAR/Industry Public Workshops Scheduled for March and April

A series of public workshops to focus on issues of concern for the future of the auto repair industry and BAR are scheduled for March and April in four locations.

"To prepare for these workshops, BAR and leaders in the automotive repair industry examined the auto repair marketplace and identified three major challenges," said BAR Chief Marty Keller. "These issues will be the focus of BAR and the industry in the coming months, and we want to hear the views of our licensees."

The three issues identified as a result of BAR's recently completed Program Review process are:

- ✦ professionalism in the auto repair industry—competence, ethics and communication;
- ✦ dispute resolution issues between consumers and the industry, and between BAR and the industry; and
- ✦ communication between the auto repair industry and BAR.

Auto repair dealers and technicians are invited to share their ideas for possible solutions at any of the workshops listed below. No RSVP is required. For inquiries or questions on the work-

shops, call (916) 445-7964.

FRESNO

Thursday, March 19, 1998 - 6-9 p.m.
Fresno City College
1101 East University Avenue
Health Science - 150 - corner of Weldon & Glenn, northwest corner of campus
(Park in Lot S)

PASADENA

Tues., March 31, 1998 - 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Pasadena City College
1570 East Colorado Blvd.
The Forum - off Bonnie & Colorado Blvd. (Park in Lot 6)

FREMONT

Thursday, April 9, 1998 - 6-9 p.m.
Sequoia Institute
420 Whitney Place,
Lab - second building on left (Park in left lot before building entrance)

OCEANSIDE

Thursday, April 16, 1998 - 6-9 p.m.
Mira Costa College
One Barnard Drive, Room 3601
Mini-Theater (Park in Lot 3E)



FUEL CAP TESTING REQUIRED STATEWIDE ON JULY 1

Manufacturers of BAR-90ET Test Analyzer Systems (TAS) will be required to provide Smog Check stations in Basic Areas with software updates that will allow the TAS to perform fuel cap tests as part of an official Smog Check, effective July 1, 1998.

This requirement will only apply to Smog Check stations in Basic Areas with BAR-90 ETs since fuel cap testing is an integral part of the new BAR-97 Emission Inspection Systems (EISs) being used in Enhanced Areas.

In addition to the software update, Smog Check stations in Basic Areas will have to purchase a BAR-certified,

fuel cap tester. Some fuel cap testers can be used on a BAR-97, if a Basic Area later becomes designated as an Enhanced Area. However, there are exceptions and suppliers should be contacted to verify if the tester can be used with a BAR-97 EIS.

Currently, only fuel cap tester model #12440, available from Stant Manufacturing, Inc., 1620 Columbia Ave., Connersville, IN 47331-1696, is BAR-certified.

Affected station owners and managers are urged to contact their BAR-90ET equipment manufacturers for costs of the software update and the fuel cap test equipment. •••

TECHNICIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE SETS AGENDA AND NAMES SUBCOMMITTEES

The Technician Advisory Committee (TAC) assigned duties to its members and to three subcommittees at its first meeting held in January in Sacramento.

A Database/Electronic subcommittee will research information available from automobile manufacturers, an Information Newsletter subcommittee will develop story ideas and repair flowcharts for a proposed technician newsletter, and a Roadshows subcommittee will research topics, speakers and locations for a series of roadshows devoted to sharing Smog Check (loaded-mode) repair information.

Among the key issues identified by the industry and BAR's TAC for attention are:

- ✦ comparing BAR-90 to BAR-97 failures;
- ✦ using sophisticated tools;
- ✦ handling NOx failure repairs;
- ✦ dealing with repairs that produce other problems;
- ✦ following usable flow charts and teaching technicians how to use them;
- ✦ identifying and locating specific technician training;
- ✦ developing more specific procedures for pre-inspection and testing; and
- ✦ improving the ability of the industry to explain and market diagnosis to customers as part of the repair job.

The TAC members are also expected to participate in and review BAR's 20-hour training class this month. •••

TEST-ONLY STATIONS LIST 3/98

*A reference for customers needing smog certification.
Check web site for future sites.*

Business Name	Address	City	ZIP	Telephone No.	County
1. Contra Costa Smog Test Only Lanes	1411 Auto Center Road	Walnut Creek	94596	(510) 947-2555	Contra Costa
2. Smog Master	2591 N. Blackstone	Fresno	93703	(209) 226-8241	Fresno
3. Saastas Chevron Service	2115 South 4th Street	El Centro	92243	(760) 352-2600	Imperial
4. Garces Circle Smog	1330 Golden State Ave	Bakersfield	93301	(805) 322-7664	Kern
5. Speed A Way Smog	3785 Rosedale Highway	Bakersfield	93308	(805) 631-0881	Kern
6. Low Price Smog Center	916 S. Santa Anita	Arcadia	91006	(626) 447-5341	Los Angeles
7. Immanuel Auto Repair	9073 Rosecrans Ave.	Bellflower	90706	(562) 633-3809	Los Angeles
8. American Auto Test	17510 Studebaker Road	Cerritos	90703	(562) 403-2660	Los Angeles
9. Auto Chek Centers	700 N. Grand Ave.	Covina	91724	(818) 331-7664	Los Angeles
10. Smog & Tune Express	1101 N. Azusa Ave. #B3	Covina	91722	(626) 858-1833	Los Angeles
11. Samo's Smog Check II - Test-Only	103 E. Arrow Hwy, Unit A	Glendora	91740	(626) 914-2347	Los Angeles
12. The SmogFather	4138 W. El Segundo Blvd.	Hawthorne	90250	(310) 219-3063	Los Angeles
13. Inglewood Test-Only Smog Center	502 N. La Brea Ave.	Inglewood	90302	(310) 412-2595	Los Angeles
14. Auto Chek Centers	5051 Sunset Blvd.	Los Angeles	90027	(213) 666-7664	Los Angeles
15. Auto Chek Centers	8971 Kramer Wood Place	Los Angeles	90034	(310) 202-7664	Los Angeles
16. Cook's Corner	5925 Melrose Ave.	Los Angeles	90038	(213) 464-8781	Los Angeles
17. Johnny's Auto Service	3770 S. Western Ave.	Los Angeles	90018	(213) 732-1300	Los Angeles
18. Sepulveda West Car Wash	2001 S. Sepulveda Blvd.	Los Angeles	90025	(310) 478-9274	Los Angeles
19. Smog Test-Only Centers	3535 S. LaBrea Ave.	Los Angeles	90016	(213) 935-4136	Los Angeles
20. Auto Chek Centers	2909 N. Sepulveda Blvd.	Manhattan Beach	90266	(310) 545-9991	Los Angeles
21. Smog Test-Only Centers	11637 Sherman Way	No. Hollywood	91605	(818) 982-7521	Los Angeles
22. Smog Test-Only Centers	22822 Lyons Ave.	Newhall	91321	(805) 259-4610	Los Angeles
23. Smog Test-Only Centers	2166 E. Colorado Blvd.	Pasadena	91107	(626) 577-5394	Los Angeles
24. Discount Auto and Smog Repair	4948 Firestone Blvd.	Southgate	90280	(213) 563-0524	Los Angeles
25. South Bay Smog Check Ctr	2675 Skypark Drive #104	Torrance	90505	(310) 530-8576	Los Angeles
26. Warner Ctr. Union 76 & Test-Only Ctr	21940 Ventura Blvd.	Woodland Hills	91364	(310) 479-0655	Los Angeles
27. M & G Automotive	3524 W. Ball Road	Anaheim	92804	(714) 828-9950	Orange
28. T & T Auto Repair	301 North Anaheim Blvd.	Anaheim	92805	(714) 635-2890	Orange
29. Auto Chek Centers	2340 E. Chapman Ave.	Fullerton	92631	(714) 870-7664	Orange
30. American Tire and Automotive	2414 West 17th St.	Santa Ana	92706	(714) 554-5731	Orange
31. Auto Chek Centers	2702 N Grand Ave.	Santa Ana	92701	(714) 771-7664	Orange
32. Super Smog	10281 Beach Blvd.	Stanton	90680	(714) 828-6048	Orange
33. Smog Stop	212 Harding Blvd #Y	Roseville	95678	(916) 783-8421	Placer
34. Smog's Yes	1000 W. Florida Ave.	Hemet	92543	(909) 929-7664	Riverside
35. Smog Only	10835 Hole Ave.	Riverside	92505	(909) 352-3185	Riverside
36. Valley Smog Test	1019 S. San Jacinto St, #C	San Jacinto	92583	(909) 487-1425	Riverside
37. One Stop Smog	5851 Fair Oaks Blvd.	Carmichael	95608	(916) 488-7573	Sacramento
38. Abbetter Smog	7070 Fruitridge Rd.	Sacramento	95820	(916) 386-8700	Sacramento
39. Smog Stop	4750 Florin Road	Sacramento	95823	(916) 393-1448	Sacramento
40. Smog Wizard	2401 Broadway	Sacramento	95818	(916) 737-2001	Sacramento
41. Smog Wizard	7610 Folsom Blvd.	Sacramento	95826	(916) 386-2356	Sacramento
42. Smog Check Only	13600 Quinnault Rd. #8	Apple Valley	92307	(619) 961-1305	San Bernardino

(Continued on page 5)

TEST-ONLY STATIONS LIST *(Continued from page 4)*

43. I Smogged and Saved	33575 Yucaipa Blvd. #2	Yucaipa	92399	(714) 790-1980	San Bernardino
44. Smog Stop	1155 North Grove	Ontario	91764	(909) 984-2437	San Bernardino
45. California Smog Certification	11 Third Ave.	Chula Vista	91910	(619) 422-0660	San Diego
46. Haig Auto Smog	333 'B' West Mission Ave.	Escondido	92025	(760) 489-8880	San Diego
47. Smog Center	1630 S. Escondido Blvd. Suite B	Escondido	92025	(760) 480-8880	San Diego
48. Auto Smog	5780 Miramar Road	San Diego	92121	(619) 546-1933	San Diego
49. California Smog Test Station	1425 Lincoln Ave.	San Diego	92103	(619) 295-6990	San Diego
50. Garretts' Smog	821 S. Rancho Santa Fe	San Marcos	92069	(760) 471-2179	San Diego
51. Delta Smog Check	430 N. Airport Way	Stockton	95205	(209) 464-7674	San Joaquin
52. "Greenslip, Inc."	815 E. El Camino Real	Sunnyvale	94087	(408) 720-1500	Santa Clara
53. Auto Smog	22020 Palo Way, Suite #H	Palo Cedro	96073	(916) 547-3484	Shasta
54. Cherry Pit	812 E. Monte Vista Ave.	Vacaville	95688	(707) 451-1233	Solano
55. Oxnard Union 76 & TO Center	341 W. Gonzales Road	Oxnard	93030	(805) 988-4515	Ventura
56. Smog Test-Only Centers	1916 South Saviers Road	Oxnard	93041	(805) 240-1613	Ventura
57. Smog Test-Only Centers	50 Skyline Drive	Thousand Oaks	91406	(805) 496-3011	Ventura
58. Pay Less Smog Center	31290 LaBaya Drive #6	Westlake Village	91362	(818) 889-7411	Ventura

SMALL BUSINESS LIST

Small businesses, such as Smog Check station owners and auto repair dealers, sometimes have a difficult time getting loans. The state's Small Business Loan Guarantee Program may be able to help. Here's a list of Small Business Financial Development Corporations, which can be contacted directly, or through your bank. You may also call the California Trade and Commerce Agency, Office of Small Business in Sacramento at (916) 322-5790 for more information about the loan program. •••

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Sacramento

926 J Street, Suite 1500
(916) 442-1729

Santa Rosa

1626 Fourth Street
(1707) 577-8621 Or (800)
273-8637

Oakland

1814 Franklin Street, Suite 900
(510) 267-9300

Pleasanton

5776 Stoneridge Mall Rd., Suite 345
(510) 416-6439

Salinas

221 Main Street, Suite 301
(408) 424-1099

Santa Barbara

924 Anacapa Street, Suite 38
(805) 962-9251

Santa Maria

910 East Scorwell Road
(805) 349 0793

Santa Cruz

700 River Street, Suite 12
(408) 459-6095

Fresno

3417 West Shaw Ave., Suite 100
(209) 271-9030

Bakersfield

1706 Chester Ave., Suite 200
(805) 322-7889

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles

3600 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 926
(213) 382-4300

Los Angeles

3255 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1501
(213) 739-2999

San Diego

600 B Street, Suite 2491
(619) 231-7771

San Bernardino

290 D Street, 7th Flr, Suite 740
(909) 384-9006

Change of Name & Address Notification Required

Licensees who change their name and/or address are required to notify DCA/BAR's Licensing Division within 14 days. Here's how to do it.

- Contact DCA/BAR's Licensing Division at (916) 322-4000 to request a change of name/address form.
- Complete the form and mail it, along with your original Auto Repair Dealer business license and all associated station licenses (a photocopy of the business license may be posted at the place of business until the new license arrives), to:

LICENSING DIVISION
400 R Street, Suite 3080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Or, if you're a Smog Check technician at a testing site, ask the test proctor for a Change of Candidate Information form, fill it out and return it to the proctor. •••



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Bureau of Automotive Repair
400 R Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

BAR FIELD OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS

Bakersfield (805) 833-6304
Riverside (909) 782-4250
Canoga Park ... (818) 596-4400
Sacramento (916) 255-4200
Culver City (310) 410-0024
San Jose (408) 277-1860
Fresno (209) 445-5015
South El Monte (818) 575-6934
Fullerton (714) 680-7851
Hayward (510) 785-1961
Oceanside (760) 439-0942

DCA Cashiering (916) 322-7002
DCA Licensing (916) 322-4010
ET Help Desk . (916) 255-4476
MCI (800) 731-SMOG
(Then press 5 for technical support)
Consumer Assistance and
Referee Center (800) 622-7733

DCA Hotline (800) 952-5210

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Smog Check Advisory

MARCH 1998

Little Scoops...

- ▲ Eight more Gross Polluter Certification (GPC) pilot stations have been added to the list in the cities of Santa Cruz, Visalia, Oroville, Cameron Park, Yuba City, Santa Barbara, Seaside and San Mateo. Check BAR's Web Page at www.smogcheck.ca.gov or call the Consumer Information Center at (800) 952-5210 for addresses and phone numbers.
- ▲ Smog Check stations should be aware that MCI is expected to increase the cost per call to the Vehicle Information Database (VID) in the very near future. The cost per call is expected to rise to 30 cents from the current 11 cents. Since it takes two calls to complete a Smog Check transaction, expect the cost to increase to 60 cents per transaction. Exact timing of the increase will be announced by way of electronic transmission.
- ▲ Also on the horizon in the near future, is a 25 cent increase in the cost of a Smog Check certificate. After this date is known, stations with current inventories of certificates should charge consumers \$8 until they receive an inventory of new certificates, which will cost \$8.25 each, or \$412.50 for a book of 50.
- ▲ And a reminder, a digital storage oscilloscope/graphing multimeter is required for loaded-mode diagnosis/repair. Refer to the September *Smog Check Advisory* for more information. A fact sheet will appear soon on the BAR's Smog Check Web Page.
- ▲ Cost limits do not apply to government fleet vehicles that fail a Smog Check, which means the vehicle must be repaired regardless of the cost. Repaired fleet vehicles may be reinspected at any licensed Smog Check station. Since these vehicles don't receive a certificate, they don't have to go to a Test-Only station, say BAR's resident fleet experts.
- ▲ Some added bonuses for Smog Check stations in Basic Areas using BAR-90ET Test Analyzer Systems—the software update required for fuel cap testing (see related story on page 3) will also allow Smog Check technicians to abort tests on 1973 and older vehicles that are no longer subject to Smog Check testing, and will add a paragraph to the Vehicle Inspection Report to notify motorists that they may qualify for low-income emissions repair cost assistance.

Visit DCA/BAR's new Web site!
www.smogcheck.ca.gov or www.smogcheck.org